It is for the U.S. Government to examine the measures it should take to ensure fulfilment of the pledge President Musharraf has given to the United States and for implementing the U.S. goal of working with other countries to fight terrorism globally. It is Government's understanding that the United States has provided substantial economic assistance and limited military assistane in the context of Pakistan's role in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Simplification of issuance of Visas

234. DR. AKHILESH DAS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether under a fresh arrangement between India and the U.S.A.. the U.S. has simplified the process of issue of Visas to Indians; and

(b) if so. what are the new Visa-regulations and how far the issue of Visas has been made easier and simpler ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) The questions does not arise.

Reports of Annual Strategic Survey conducted by London based Institute

235. DR. KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the Annual Strategic Survey conducted by the London based International Institute for Strategic Studies underlining the "Promise and Peril' faced by India. Pakistan and the United States as they try to unravel the diplomatic tangle wrought in South Asia aftermath of September 11. 2001 in the context of U.S. led war on terrorism: and

(b) if so. how far Government agree that this would result in a deadlock in Indo-Pak relations through 2003 and hamper India's political and military relationship with the U.S. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government believes that a permanent cessation of cross-border terrorism by Pakistan, in accordance with President Musharraf's public commitments in that regard on 12 January and 27 May. 2002 as also his pledge and assurances to the international community, would diffuse tensions and create an atmosphere conducive to the resumption of meaningful dialogue with Pakistan. India and the United States have established a broad-based and high level of bilateral interaction, including in political and defence fields, in pursuit of the goal that Prime Minister and President Bush outlined in Washington D.C. in November, 2001 of completing the process of qualitatively transforming India—U.S. relations.

American delegations to New Delhi

236. DR. AKHILESH DAS :

DR. KARAN SINGH :

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the past nine months as many as around sixty or so American high officials and politicians have visited New Delhi.

(b) if so. whether this shows a definite improvement in lndo-U.S. relations, especially in the context of cooperation in fighting international terrorism: and

(c) the details of these official visits and delegations and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) India and the United States have established a broad-based and high level of bilateral interaction in pursuit of the goal that Prime Minister and President Bush outlined in Washington D.C. inNovember. 2001 of completing the process of qualitatively transforming India-US. relations. These exchanges